

COBURN AMENDMENT 684: CONSOLIDATE PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES

This amendment would call for public housing authorities (PHAs) participating in HUD programs to consolidate with one another, in order to streamline section 8 and public housing programs.

- There are almost 4,000 PHAs nationwide, each with its own administrative structures, such as executive directors and maintenance staff. These PHAs participate in section 8 voucher programs and manage federally funded public housing (aka, projects).
- Yet, 72 percent of PHAs manage only 12 percent of section 8 vouchers and public housing stock.
- 14 percent of PHAs manage 80 percent of section 8 vouchers and public housing stock.
- One state, Massachusetts, has proposed reducing its 240 PHAs to 6 regional ones, and expects to save \$10 million a year. Scaled up proportionally across the country, the federal government could save \$500 million annually.
- In a time of fiscal crisis, funds saved through increased efficiency would help HUD to continue helping the most vulnerable.